



Horatio P. Van Cleve and
family papers.

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New York Dec. 13. 1852

Dear Father,

My last from you is of the date of Aug. 8., which I recd. on the 13th. It contained two bonds and a mortgage besides some other papers. The delay in getting them has then been due to waiting for the last not yet recd. It was the mortgage on land in Wayne Co. N.Y.

Since the receipt of yours I have written twice to John (first by means of Wm. Brewster) to get him to write a letter that would put at the executors of your uncle. I have indirectly heard somewhere that John has been ill this fall. I have not heard whether he has written to Mr. Woodard as Wm. Brewster said.

My object in writing at the present moment is to request you to obtain from John and Brewster their order on Wm. Brewster, to send with your son, for him to pay the interest accruing in January 1853. Your uncle's requests were to send, as by agreement. The time of payment is January 1853. I have a note of \$1250. to meet interest on

close of January, I shall need to receive the in-
terest in time to use it towards the debt.

Will you be so good then as to send me
a paper order on W^m Brewster for the three,
three orders for each, without delay, that I
may forward them to him. If you should be
able to get the same from you on the
remaining papers to complete the security of
the loan. I should be glad to hear how about the
property, how it is occupied, and what improve-
ments have offered for a favorable sale; still
you are still looking for a purchaser, or have
you been inclined to hold on to it, and send away
of returning it and working it out.

I should be glad to hear from and of you
all. There is but little to be done here at present.
My health is as usual. I have not been
well from New Haven. By last account all your
friends were well as usual there. The season
both here and there very mild and pleasant and
still continues so. Spring with weather would
perhaps be more favorable to health, as it would
be more seasonable for the period of the year; but the
warm weather at home we have had.

Hoping to hear from you soon.

continued health & prosperity remain

Yours

Edw. Johnson

Your letter speaks of the times of paper, much
the same. As you have paid them they are not
getting. I shall probably need the interest reg-
ularly and promptly. Up to this time I have been
paying you for the loan, receiving ten per cent for
the interest, but now I am to pay two or three years. It
is but a small sum at the same rate.

If you have anything about the loan, I think
I may wait on the firm which I think matures
in September next. I trust you will let me
know.

[June 22, 1852]

New York June 22, 1852

Dear Brother,

I enclose to your order Exchanges
one Hundred Dollars. You have doubtless seen the
word in the letter to Houston which will
enable you to expect this with its counter to.

I have none of your letters at pres-
ent at hand, and can only generally acknowl-
edge the receipt of yours and one from John.

As I learn from John's letter that he
might be put to inconvenience by the non-
receipt himself of the Draft int. from his
Legacy, I shall endeavor to do without it.

The enclosed will meet all the demands
which are urgent, I believe; and I hope you
will be able to dispose of your property to good
advantage at the proper time. I shall trust to
your & Houston's arrangement of the business
in the most accurate & thorough manner. I shall
wish to hear of its successful completion as soon
as you are able to send me word to that effect.
Please inform me also in regard to the other sug-
gestions in the letter to Houston. We are well as
usual and wish you health & happiness.

Horatio R. Packard Esq.

Yrs Affly & truly
H. R. Packard

Horatio P. Van Allen Esq
Ann Arbor
Michigan

Oct. 27. '53

Add int. to ...
in ...

the above ...

As I may go to Phila.
and Christman I should like to receive
in time to take on with me.

Your letter says nothing about the
purchase of your farm. Who he is,
how his payments of interest and
the balance of the principal, will be due July 1, 1854.
700. July 1, '55 to 700. July 1, '56.

By arrangement with you I have shown
how to effect payments of interest &c. Let
me hear what is proposed in regard to this
by you or the purchaser.

Ever truly,
C. L. L.

[Nov. 28, 1853]

New York Nov. 28. 1853.

Dear brother,

It is a week since
I recd. your letter. I am glad to
hear from you again, and to learn
that you had made what I suppose
to be an advantageous sale of your
farm.

I should be pleased to take your
mortgage and accommodate you
if it were in my power to do
so, but I have no money at
present with which to do so,
and my engagements for some
time to come are such that
I shall need all the means which
I can reach, to meet them.

I wish you had found a reason
to visit the East in connection
with your business, and hope you
may yet come.

I had the pleasure of meeting
your dearest friend Phillips with
Gates Sumner in N. Haven this Sum-
mer. I suppose they have been
back home again for some time.
Your duties as engineer, I am
glad to hear are so agreeable in
themselves, and bring you so near
to your dearest friends. I hope you
will find them also of service to
your health by the out door ex-
ercise and not injurious by ex-
posure.

Mr. & Mrs. Gibbs were here for a day
or two at the close of September.
and Julia & Willie have made

a visit to the Crystal Palace
I have no letters from
them but suppose they are all
well.

My family are in usual health
and write with much love
to you & yours, and we all
hope that we may meet
and learn to know each other
better.

Yrs Affly & truly

Wm. L. Gibbs

The following is a statement of the account of the

At date of July 1. 53.	Principal	1560.
	Int.	186.
		1746.
Add interest to Oct. 27. 3 mos + 27/81.		56.75
		1802.75
	Deduct of principal	1560.
		242.75

would be due by you at date of Oct. 27. 53.

He advised the ~~rest of the~~ ^{rest of the} party to remain as soon as possible
for the ~~rest of the~~ ^{rest of the} party to remain as soon as possible
for the ~~rest of the~~ ^{rest of the} party to remain as soon as possible

Sutton Mine Houghton Co. S.S.
Sabbath Morning. Sept. 3rd 1884

My own dear wife

My face is now set homeward.
I finished my explanations yesterday, receiving
a letter from Dr. Douglass, wishing me
to make an extra effort to be at Eagle
Harbor to take the Propeller Manhattan
on Wednesday next. Two of my party
had left for this place in the morning,
on account of sickness; a third wished
to go to Portage Lake with the mail carrier,
and I accordingly dismissed him, leaving
but one beside myself. When we were
thus left alone I proposed to him that
we should pack up and go to the Sutton, to
spend the Sabbath. He was nothing but
so in an hour & a half we had our
packs on our backs, and bidding fare-
well to the Washington, and hand explana-
tions, we came here; 6 miles on our jour-

ney homeward, without stopping once to rest, and without fatigue. If we had been traveling in the opposite direction, we would have been obliged to rest at least three times, and would have been very tired. What a difference between traveling towards home and from home!

Thus far my dear wife our Heavenly Father has watched over me during my journeyings and kept me by the way. He has given me health & strength and has preserved me from harm & accident; and has cheered my heart during my long absence from my family with good news from them. Bless the Lord, Oh my soul, for his goodness to me, a miserable sinner, and may I never forget all his benefits!

Of the four that have continued ^{with the party} ever since we left New Arbor (Dr Douglass, the two students and myself) I am the only one that has not been hindered from work by sickness, and

day, since we left home. I suffered much at one time from lameness, but the Lord sustained me through my affliction, & I have every cause for gratitude & thanksgiving. My time has not been spent as profitably as I & have wished, yet I trust it has not been altogether mispent. I have endeavored to be faithful to those for whom I have been laboring, and have tried not to neglect the means of Grace, God has graciously given me. In this however, I have fallen far short of my duty, and have to mourn over my many sins, my want of faithfulness, my neglect of duties that I owe to my God, my Heavenly Father, my Rock, my Supporter. Who has done so much for me; fed me & clothed me, sustained me under fatigue, cheered me when downcast; To whom I have never looked in vain, for aid, in times of trial, difficulty and sorrow; and who gave his Son to suffering and death as a ransom for my soul.

If my life should be spared till I reach home, will it not be a pleasure to us to unite our voices in thanksgiving and praise to our Father & God?

Afternoon. I suppose you have been to church to day; have heard & heard ed discourse from Mr C, and have enjoyed yourself as usual there. Perhaps too you have heard a good sermon from Mr Sundius. I have not heard a sermon since I left home, and probably shall not hear one before I reach home. It is a sad way for a Christian to live and perhaps the most mournful part of it is, that so many so soon become reconciled to it.

Although I have not heard a sermon, and my sabbaths have not been improved as they should have been, yet I trust they have not been unprofitable to me. I thank my God for the gift of this holy day, and pray that I may ever remember to keep it holy.

With praise to God that we may soon

Eagle River S. T.

Monday, Sept 4th 1854

I reached this place this afternoon about 4 o'clock, somewhat weary as my pack was somewhat weighty, having a number of specimens in it that I had gathered at the Fulton mine and other places. As these specimens have cost me some labor, I hope my children will appreciate them. I speak of the labor, but it has also been a great pleasure to me, and I have not considered it a hardship. My only regret has been that I could not have carried more.

Just as we reached here the steamer Baltimore started for the Sault. Had we been ten minutes earlier we might have taken passage on her for Copper Harbor, as it is we must walk there (nine miles) to-morrow. No doubt it is all for the best.

Letter to those of John Lee
knowing the waves breaking the sands
under my feet
Sept. 11, 1893, Tuesday Morning.

Now I am on my way from Eagle River
to Lake Harbor and home sea. It is such
a beautiful day. The fog has cleared off and over hills
along the beach is very pleasant.

The thought of soon being united to
my darling wife & children is up fl
most in my thoughts & cheers me on my
way.

Having rested somewhat we are
again. Good by.

Eagle Harbor, Sept. 11, 1893.

I found on my way back from letters, dated
24th & 28th July, from my dear wife.
My precious Anna was not very well, but
my wife was laughing & growing fat; Mal-
colm was learning to play on the violin &
was going to study. Eddie wanted a
pair of breeches; and wife was going to
invent a patent preacher to work on the
principle of the hand organ; Lillian was

growing thin, and there was a great drought throughout the land; wet enough here by the bye; Poor Fanny Clark quite sick & old Clark very sick; had made a visit to Upsala and was expecting visitors from Cincinnati; Was looking for me on the 7th but did not expect me till the 15th and Seymour was a failure. I was perfectly aware of that fact.

If we had reached Eagle River 15 minutes sooner yesterday we might now be on the Baltimore on our way to the South, as it is we do not expect to leave here before Friday evening or Saturday morning.

Eagle Harbor Wednesday evening Sept 6th

This morning I went on a ramble to see what I could find along the Lake Shore. I made no particularly valuable discoveries, but had quite a pleasant walk.

The waves are now dashing against the shore as if the Lake was in a fury about something, but there does not appear to be much wind at present. There may have been a strong wind some when

on its waters, that has disturbed its equanimity.

This is quite a pretty place; it has a fine harbor, and if the mines in the vicinity prove to be profitable it will make one of the most important towns on Lake Superior. I had a fine view of it this morning, from the opposite side of the Harbor, and now having seen its beauties, I am ready to leave as soon as the boat arrives. It has at present very little society to add to its attractions.

I spent the afternoon copying some maps, and expect to spend all day to-morrow & perhaps part of the next day in the same manner, and in transcribing my notes.

I am glad that you & the children have been to Spilanti and have enjoyed your visit there. I hope hereafter there may be more cordiality between the families. I hope you see Ann frequently. Is it possible that you weigh more than Antoinette? How happens it? Do you think strong beer? Hoping that Anna, Malcolm, & Samson have entirely recovered their health & that the rest are all well. I bid you good night.

Boarden House
Eagle Harbor

Friday evening Sept 8, 1854.

From 2 o'clock Pm Wednesday
until 2 o'clock Pm today I was
hard at work transcribing notes &
copying maps. — This afternoon
I have been loafing, with a
feeling of fatal good-for-nothing-
ness. We are waiting for the Propul-
sor Manhattan to propel us to
the South. Probably after we get
sound asleep she will be aroun-
ed from our slumbers by the
news of her arrival. I will not
regret it for I am anxious to be
on my way home. I long to see
wife, children & friends.

Steam Propeller Mauckhattan
on Lake Superior, out of
sight of land.

Saturday Afternoon Sept 9th

I had just covered myself snug-
ly in bed last night, when I heard
some persons in the street speak-
ing of a boat that had just ar-
rived; Thinking it might possi-
bly be the Mauckhattan, I jump-
ed out of bed, dressed myself &
went out to see, I found it
was the Baltimore, on her way
up. In the course of an hour
there was another arrival, the
Ward, also on her way up.

After 11 o'clock I went to bed
again and about 3 in the morn-
ing was awakened out of a

a very sound sleep, by a
tap on my door, accompanied
with the words; The Propeller.

I was up, dressed, & on the
boat in a few minutes, &
there waited till six o'clock,
before we started; completely
cheated out of 2 1/2 hours of
sleep, that I wanted much.
and with the delightful
prospect of sleeping to night
sitting on a chair or lying
on the floor, for the boat is
crowded with passengers &
the berths all taken.

I have been making up
for lost sleep a little this af-
ternoon by napping in a chair.
On awaking I find we are

out of sight² of land. And
that is where I believe I have
never been before in daylight
and clear weather.

We have had a delightful
trip thus far. The weather
is pleasant, the sky clear, and the
Lake perfectly smooth.

Soon after breakfast we
reached Copper Harbor where
I saw Seth Reese & Charlie
Forsyth. Both I believe are
clerks in the same store.

After leaving Copper Harbor
we stopped at Marquette
Island and sent off the small
boat with some supplies for
the keeper of the Light House.
Since then we have kept

very soon 136. After
our course without inter-
ruption.

Soon after leaving Mani-
ton Island we were able
to see the South Shore of Ke-
weenaw Point, and could
distinguish in the distance
Mank Houghton, which is near
Bite Gish Bay, Lac La Poudre
Location, and the different
Hills on the South Range of
Keeweenaw Point when we
had been laboring in Sagadahoc.
It was pleasant to look
over more upon the scene of
our labors, and still more
pleasant to think that they
were over, and that we

even on our way homeward
where I hope soon to see my
loved ones from whom I
have so long been separa-
ted.

Evening. I saw the sun go
down this evening, as it were
into the water, tinging the fleecy
clouds with the most lovely
hues. It was a magnifi-
cent sight, and one that will
not soon be effaced from my
mind. How insignificant
the works of man appear, when
compared with the handi-
work of God.

Night. Boat crowded. State rooms & berths
all occupied. The cabin floor strewn
with sumners, the tables covered with
animals of the same species.

Sabbath, Aug 10th

Sault of St. Marys.

We had a very pleasant
trip from Eagle Harbor, and
arrived here about 9 o'clock
this morning. The steamer
North Star, a new boat
came in from Detroit about
2 hours after. This is her
first trip and already, if not
quite all the male population
of the Sault were out to wit-
ness her arrival. As we ex-
pect to go to Detroit on her
I may see enough of her, with-
out following the crowd. My
bunk of curiosity for such sights, is

not as largely developed as it is in the great mass of mankind.

We spend the Sabbath here, at a hotel full of strangers from above & below, and as I cannot have a room to myself, I look for little comfort. I am nevertheless thankful that the boat does not leave till morning for I do not love to travel on this holy day.

Dr D. receives here two letters from home, one dated the 1st & the other the 4th of September. There are none for me.

3 o'clock P.M. Went to Church this afternoon at the Baptist Mission & heard a sermon on faith, Mr. Thompson, an old man, who has had charge of this mission for many years. This is the first opportunity I have had to attend church since I left home.

Evening. Attended Presbyterian Church, ^{Weymouth} sermon by Mr. Child.

Monday Morning Sept 11. 1854

On board the Steamer North Star
bound for Detroit.

Here I am. We came on
board last night, & this morning
at day light I was awakened
by the tramping of men on the
upper deck, immediately over
my head, as they were preparing
to leave the dock at the South.
In a few moments we were
under way, and steaming down
the St Marys charmingly, and
in the course of a couple of hours
we had a comfortable breakfast.
There are three things that steam
boat travellers think of: good

beds, good meals, and good
speed. If they have them com-
bined, they are generally pretty
well satisfied. This boat
bids fair to give general sa-
tisfaction.

8 o'clock P.M. Mackinac.

We arrived here about 3 o'clock
and are just leaving the docks.
On our arrival I had the plea-
sure of meeting Dr. Bailey just
the landing, with his father. Went
with him to the Fort and called
on his mother & family. Was
much pleased with my
visit. I

When we left the Sault
this morning, I expected

to start tea with you
tomorrow evening, but
have had been detained
here so long that it is im-
probable that we will reach
Detroit before tomorrow
night.

The North Star is a new
boat, this is her first trip
and her machinery does
not appear to work perfect-
ly smooth.



Pesquis Isle Lake Huron

On board the Steamer North Star

Saturday Morning Sept 12, 1884

When I awaked this morning, I noticed the boat was at rest in motion, and from the ~~mechanism~~ ^{mechanism} on board I concluded that something was out of order again in the Engine. On getting up I found we were in the Harbor at Pesquis Isle, having made but 60 miles during the night. The Engine did not work properly and they were obliged to put in here to repair it. The machinists have been at work on it for some hours and I hope that they will have all right, and that we will be able to start out, by the middle of the afternoon.

The wind has been blowing quite strong all the morning, and if we had not been near a harbor, we might

have been rolled about at the mercy of the waves, and possibly hampered with a more serious disaster. If the engine had failed to work, the vessel would have been perfectly unmanageable and we might have been driven ashore before any assistance could have reached us. Now little do we know what a day may bring forth, and how important that we should ever live prepared for Eternity! Now thankful we should be that we have a Saviour who is ever ready to help us, in time of need! May we always have our trust in him. He will then never forsake us.

When we left the Sault I thought it possible that I would take dinner with you today, & expected surely to drink tea with you; but now must put off the appointment for tea one day more. I endeavor to commit all to our Heavenly Father, May He preserve us, and restore us to each other in his own good time.

I am very anxious to see you & my dear children, and to reach home before Malcolm leaves, but do not feel impatient or disposed to murmur at these detentions. The situation might have been much worse. The Lord has dealt very kindly with us, and we should ever thanksgiving & praise for all his goodness.

Evening. We left Presque Isle about 4 1/2 P.M. and have since been making rapid head way, and if no accident happens may be in Detroit in time to take the morning train for home, so that I again hope to take dinner with my wonderful family to-morrow. It is the expectation now that we take breakfast in Detroit.

As you have crossed Lake Huron, you need no description of it. The scenery along the South Shore differs much from that on the shores of Lake Superior. Here

The coast is low & level. On Lake
Superior it is badly broken, and
is consequently more interesting.



H. P. Van Cleve

Gen. Antown

Montgomery, Ala.

Ohio

Ann Arbor July 29th 1853

Dear Husband,

Your very welcome letter dated German town reached me this morning, and assured me that you and our dear boy are well and happy. I try to feel thankful that God has thus far smiled upon your efforts and kept you from harm and evil, may he continue his protecting care over you for his dear Son's sake. While Malcomb is not particularly engaged would it not be a good thing if he could practice writing and go on with his arithmetic? I am so anxious to have him become a good and useful member of society, that I may sometimes have some hard words with him, but tell him it is only because Mother loves him so well. I am rejoiced to hear that he is a good boy, all he wants is to be under good influence until his character is fully formed, and he will be a great comfort to his parents. I had a long and excellent letter from Cliff, he is ready to come whenever you want him, he is doing well where he is, but fears that his health would fail if he continued at the business a great while. I had a letter from Sam yesterday he talked of you in such a strain that I think you right

ear must be burnt entirely off. He said he hoped
Malcolm would be as noble and as good a
man as his father but that that was hardly
possible, he would be glad to have you write
to him he said, if you could find time to do so
and said he would try to write regularly
to you. He said he often thought of Anne
and his thoughts of her were all pleasant
as one's dreams of angels. He is certainly much
attached to us all, and I love him as an own
son. I wish you would write to him his
direction is Grinnell & Sons 23 Maiden Lane
and to Mr. J. also, care of Lion Brothers
170 Broadway, your letters might do them a
great deal of good, and would I know
give them much pleasure. Have you selec-
ted a name for baby? If you do not call
him I guess would not Clifford be prettier
than any other we have thought of yet?
I should like it very much. Cliff is very anx-
ious to have it so. I do not want to name it
after any of our connections, for I do not think
it would gratify them. Just think about it and
let me know your thoughts. I have been out
this morning trying to get some money but have
not succeeded. I find that Miss Cox has been
playing grab with me and has got the lions

share in earnest. She has got all that could
be collected, and has turned some of her own
accounts for nothing etc. ^{some of} the things from which
I was hoping to get something. Miss Boston
told me this morning that she had told
her. She thought at any rate she ought to
have more than half, for I was out of school
a great part of the time. True but I know
from what I hear every day, that but for
my name in the firm, and the expectation
that I would resume my duties in the fall
she would not have kept more than half
a dozen scholars. I do not feel that I
have acted like a lady, and only want
to see her once more that I may tell her
so. I think Mr. Flood will not take the debt.
What shall I do with them? I don't want
them, but I do want the money for them.
Who would be likely to want them, I shall
see Melrod this evening I think and find
out what he is going to do and also have
him return them. But debts or give me their
equivalent. Would it do to speak to Foulton
about Mr. Burdett's acct? I do not think I shall
be able to get any thing in money for my
school bills, and I want to raise some just
not very much. Don't be worried about me

I shall not suffer any thing, but perhaps
be temporarily inconvenienced. You have
not told me what part of the game
you are playing nor what you get for
it, is it a secret if so don't tell me.
My letters are nothing but complaints and
fault-finding I should think you would
not want to hear often from me. You
your description of Germantown, it would
not be a very desirable location for us
and if the soil is any better for the produc-
tion of children than Michigan for potatoes
let us stay where we are, I had a very
pleasant call this morning from Mrs J. D.
Wood. She is a very pleasant woman who
has no doubt been much vilified. I think
I shall find her a very pleasant neighbor.
Little telegraph Wilson's wife had a son born
last week, and Mrs. J. rides round more im-
portant than ever. The children are all well
and happy. Tell Malcolm that one of his her
persevered till she accomplished three chickens
and from the expression of her face when she
piped by me, she seems to say "you couldn't turn
it over me" I must not forget to say that we had
a good rain last Sunday night. I think our Tom-
atoes will do very well, and the cabbages too. I am
up. I am called this day, she is very friendly. She
thinks just as we do of the Fox Creek on the hill. I shall try
and write to you on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday
with that answer. Kiss Malcolm for me. Good bye and
may God ever bless you my dear husband.
Your wife Edith

Amherst Jan 7th 1857

My very dear Husband

Your unanswered letter

I found time to me, but I had not been in
want of information that I have written
to you before. Your consolation that I
have been dissipating considerably during
the past week, and I concluded to now
rest to wait till to-day and then tell
you all about it. We attended a series
given by the Medical Students on Tuesday
evening, and enjoyed ourselves very much
on Friday evening we went to a party
at Mr Allen's where we met many of our
friends and had a very pleasant time.
Mr Gurn and his wife were there and
we were very happy. Mr Spelman took
Allen to both parties and Mr Allen and
I followed in their wake. I need not tell
you I should have enjoyed it much
better if you had been with me.

But I would not have been gone if you
had been here, although it appears you
are going to leave Sunday tonight. I shall
think of you and be happy to think that
you are enjoying yourself. Did Lizzie
survive her first appearance at the theatre?
I know her eye must have expanded
considerably. I should like to have seen
her. I shall be glad to get your next
letter and hear what she thought of it.
So she has visited Elizabeth, and Eliza
Este. I am glad of it, and am much
pleased that she is behaving so well and
gaining so many friends. Tell her we
miss her very much, but that we are
too happy to have her enjoying her-
self so well. We feel such at her absence.
Every night when I go round to see that
all the little ones are comfortable for
the night, I miss one dear one and
feel that I would give much for a kiss
from her sweet mouth.

I am sorry that you have not succeeded
yet in getting business put "running again."
There are chances and changes help-
ing the hopeful as they strive to out, and
through the chaos, the wisdom arranges
ever success if you "hold hope on."
Why not write to Col. Smith, perhaps the
Virginians are not so scrupled for
money as the Ohioans. Get up a card about
you, and be ready for the first opening.
I hope you will be able to see Mrs. Gell-
man's friends, probably his brother
may call on you. I can tell you one
thing for you to cheer up on, if you can
get out of debt and get firmly establi-
shed in business. I am not going to be
separated from you in this way, I am
getting sick of it. Any time when you
leave the work I can pack up and leave
him to labor without a sigh but
of course I do not want to leave
then, till we can do better elsewhere.

I wish you could see the children. Legs
moving & learning to read quite fast which
also is surprising in view of Ellen studies
very little more. Mary is on with her stud-
ies. Mark is trying to study, I hope he
will accomplish something before you
return. Anna is just as usual, and
you know well how that is. She misses
you very much and says she would
go better when you were at home
last than ever she did before. Little Sam
is saying what a little like I write he is
a darling baby. Little Eddie sits beside
me holding hands on the floor and
calling to me to look. He is as bright
as a diamond and very much.

The house had a few mild days but
now it is very cold again and this
afternoon it is raining. Good bye my
dear husband. I hope I will see you
for me and take her a couple to be a good
girl. We shall write to her this week. Love
to all. Annie will be delighted to get
Aunt Mary's letter. God bless you
your own dear wife C. C. B.



Alex. H. Tor Jan^y 26th 1852

My own dear Husband,

I have just written
you a short letter this morning and en-
close a copy of a letter from Johnson
rec'd yesterday. I intended to have written
a long letter today, and Anna was also
going to write, but we are busy preparing
for a party at Miss Clarke's to-morrow
night, and for a summer party at Mrs.
Judge Clarke's to-day, when it is all over
we will write a lengthy and interesting
account of the doings. We are all well
and doing well. The draft from Phila-
delphia arrived safely a day or two since.
Mr. Perkins cashed it without any diffi-
culty and I immediately paid Henry Wells
who refused positively to receive more than
the face of the note. I also paid Mr. Wood
the note for Dr. Gunn, principal interest
amounted to \$68.94. I also paid Godfrey

and Hudson, Finty and Thous. All seem
much pleased and I was delighted
to make them so happy, and concluded
it was more blessed to give them to
recede. The walking is very bad but
as soon as it gets better, I shall go
round and pay some more debts,
but I must hold on tight enough to
keep us along in the meantime.
The shade is very well, don't be
worried at all about us.
Mrs Thomson is with us now, and we enjoy
it very much. The house seems much
better than full time. The front room is
kept warm. Mr Thomson is here for the
present his health seems much better
although his health is very poor. He is
very gentlemanly, and is continually doing
us some favors. I hope he may be here
in the Spring while I am gone, and if
so he says he will make garden and
get many things started for us. Mrs Thomson

has come to go to Rochester where she has
from Rochester, and I think that he
may go East with her, if he is able.
His disease seems chronic and although
though he is able to be up every day
yet he is kept up entirely by the
fumes of Opium which he takes for
a time then he suffers.
The boys pay their board, and I
shall lose nothing by it, and at
the same time I know that his
being here has a good influence
over him. I hope we are willing to reach
out a hand to welcome him when
we see no disciples of Him ~~and~~
come to seek and to save the
lost. I want to write much more
but have not time. I'll send
a bundle of love to you and
Lizzie and all the folks. Keep my
love for me, tell her to be
the best child in the world, and

mother will come on the 1st early from
around being ^{her} babies back to her
nest. Kiss all the dear babies for me
I have a most large sewing to take
in all the babies that are in town.
Mother and I will visit to
Belle this evening. Good night
all good keep you and your wife
ever more than ever
C. C. [unclear]



Wm. L. Van Fleet
Care of J. H. Lincoln Esq
Cincinnati
Ohio

Ann Arbor Feb. 7th 1854

My dear Husband

Your letter came at Catletburg as
well yesterday, and I am much pleased to
hear that you were all so well and had so
nearly arrived at the Ultima Thule. We
were however very much grieved to hear
of the illness of Col. Grey, poor man he must
have realized almost painfully that he was a
widower, and must have missed most sad-
ly the gentle hand that was wont to minister
to his ailments in former times of sickness.
How could you get along without me if you
were very sick? would you want to leave me
near you? You know I do not tell you when
you are in real trouble, but am a pretty good kind
of a nurse and perhaps, as you are used to me, you
might endure my disagreeable ways. At all events
if you should be taken sick, don't trust to any
other nurse longer than is necessary for me to
get to you, and I will show you how well I can
behave and how amiable I can be. Henry Bar-
nitt has got tired of Engineering alone as he has
come home and Robin McKersa into partnership
with him. They left for Ohio the day they

now married, so did not see them. I saw Mr
Bennett and his wife however, and they
told me of it, and said that Henry had
gone to some other station, not far from
New Haven where he was doing better than
he had been doing. The name of the place
was something like Londonsburgh some-
where where there was very heavy work and
a very large Division, so large that Henry
would not take the charge of it. I sent for
Mr. Finley a few days since he asked after
you and wished to be remembered to you.
Cliff is almost used up with hard work so he
is coming to Amherst to work for Cole, and
hopes to get a few hours in the course of the
week to study Mathematics, that he may be
ready to go whenever you say the word.
I got a very kind letter from Aunt Mary
Anne today. I shall answer it soon and
try and return an acquaintance ~~where~~ ^{the}
missions of which is very pleasant to me.
I also rec'd a letter from Mary Loring a few
days since in which she speaks of having had
a letter from you, and seems very much delight-
ed at having heard from us. I shall answer it
soon and I hope will write also. The children

are in Lowell of course, and I wish much that we
could see them. They seem very different to me from
the rest of the nephews and niece much nearer and
dearer than the others, we must keep up a com-
munication with them for the sake of their dear
mother. We are getting along very much after
the old sort, all are well, and as happy as you
wish us to be in your absence. You will miss
dear Lizzie very much, I count the weeks that
will probably elapse before I see her again, and
when I get my arms around her once, who will
be able to get her away from me again? And
where and when shall I see you again? I shall
soon be to meet you somewhere, can it not be
in Cincinnati? We shall leave here some-
time in the first week in April. What are your
plans for that time, you must tell me all
about it and whether I am to bring Malabon
with me etc. He is studying now, and will do
well I hope. Anna also applies herself well, and
has been invited ^{to} a semi-monthly musical
society held at different houses. The first was
at Mrs. Tompkins, in the house formerly owned by
John A. Holley, the next will be at Mrs. Henry
Holley, who has the best and very particularly you
know. I am always and much admired
and do you think I was proud of her?

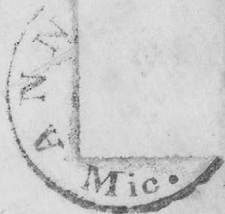
The three children are well and very interesting. Do you
want to see them? Now read the rest of this page to
yourself first. You will be somewhat surprised that
Sara Agnes and Ellen are to be married one
of these days. I cannot go into particulars now
but can tell you a great deal when we meet.
They are very much attached to each other and
I never will be very happy to get them. I do not
think Ellen could have found such a husband
in Ohio Kentucky or Virginia or even in the whole
world. He does not wish that they should enter
into any engagement, lest Ellen might change
her mind, but at the end of six years if they continue
to feel as they do now they will be married. Near
them all that Sara wrote that he could never marry
a Catholic and asked her to consider whether she
could give up her new faith for him. She did
not hesitate but told him that she should long since
have become a Protestant had it not been for pride and
the dislike to turn back when she had set out on a
new track. This is not known (that is the change in
her religious views). The other part of the secret is of
course will be told to the rest of the family. But her
conversion from Romanism she wishes to have
kept from Mary at present. For undoubtedly it
will make a great commotion. Now it is not known
I mean by the Catholics the rest of the community know
that she attended Protestant church for the last two
Sabbaths, and has attended herself entirely from the Catho-
lic church. They draw their own conclusions. We shall as
soon hear from Father Kennedy, and I will let
you know how it terminates. Ellen has been with me
to church several times and intends to attend the Presby-
terian church at present. She has been with Mother Long
on the occasion of Mr. Smith's being baptized. It is a
very fine young man and is a real sincere Christian.
He joins these instances and makes a great deal on his
side. He gives good evidence of a change of heart. His
baptism was one of the most solemn scenes I ever witnessed.
Mother was his Godmother. The Williams his Godfather.

[with letter of Feb. 7, 1854]

I want to ask you now, before I forget it, how much
wood Hicks had better bring. He says he can bring
as much as we want. I told him I would write
to you about it. He has brought about 11 cords
now, and would it not be best for him to
go right on and bring our summer wood
while the roads are good? I pause for a reply.
A further thing, cannot you cause me to get
the Union Land from that the mortgage is
released? We try and let us pay up our small
debts and feel that we need not be afraid
to look any one in the face. Tell me if you
feel that you cannot afford to have us come
to Ohio this spring and I will stay at home.
I would not consent to go if I did not think
that perhaps it would cost us no more to
go than to stay. Tell me all about it. I will do
just as you say. And now that I have thrown
in this parenthesis I will ask you how you are
going to like your new brother-in-law? Is it not
real fun that after all the maneuvering Ellen
will owe her husband to us, for if he hadn't
come out to see us, he would not have seen
her. The whole courtship has been very romantic
as you will think when you hear all about
it. I know it will be a happy match and

I am very much pleased at the thoughts of
it. Mother and Anne are doing as well as
ever. I must say good-bye now, although
I could write all day to you but it is
almost mail-time. I have cheated Anne
out of writing to you, she expected to
write when I finished but it is too late.
All send love, May God bless you my
very dear husband.

Ever your ever loving wife
C. C. Fairbairn



Mr. P. Van Cleave
German town
Montgomery Co.
Ohio.

Tuesday Ann Arbor Aug 1st 1853

My own dear Husband

With a thankful heart I sit down to answer your letter rec'd this morning. I rejoice to hear that you and Mat are well, and that you are apparently in good spirits. I am glad too to learn that you may possibly go to Dayton as head-quarters for that would be much more agreeable to you, and just here I would ask you what is the name of the road on which you are engaged? I am frequently questioned concerning it and cannot give very definite information, I can only tell them where you are, and I have to go through with a long Rigmarole to explain where Germantown is. I do not know why you have not rec'd either of my letters, I have certainly directed two to Germantown, in my last I asked you to tell me what situation you filled and what pay you received. I am glad the business is likely to agree with your health. If you should succeed in Engineering, we should conclude that Nacire has had at length found something suited to his tastes and capacities. As to removing us, I would we must not think of that at present, we are comfortable, and cannot afford to move from place

to place just because it is pleasant to be together. Wait patiently until you are so well established in business that there is something like a prospect of permanency in your location, and then will we not be a happy family again? God will protect us and give us grace to bear this separation if we ask him to help us. The dear little folks are well, and are a great comfort to me although at times, honestly, compels me to say, they are trouble some comforts. They behave quite as well as can be expected, don't fear that Seymour will be injured by long and painful confinement. I don't care where I put him, he is sure to find something to play with, and turn the whole thing into a game, but I think he is growing a better boy, to be sure he did take some very improper missiles picked up in a horse barn and throw at his sister yesterday, but that was just to make her run and holler "mother!!" I think he will come out all right after a while. The baby grows like a little pig. I tried to weigh him this morning but did not succeed, his weight broke the steel yard and a slight bump on his head was the only result ~~from~~ of our attempt to discover his weight. I think Hay scales of some thing of that kind will be the only suitable kind to weigh him with in future. Cliff has been making a very pleasant visit home. He returned to work this morning. He brought home

all this mornin I sent for and our beautiful song beside and would not let me pay him for any of it. Your letter to him dated the 21st did not reach him till the 28th. Would it do for me to send Frank Smith's bill to Cliff to hand to it & I will not do it until I have your advice but can see no impropriety in it. That Mr Cook who became responsible for Miss Van Hornes wants me to take an order on Godfrey, shall I do so and turn it over to Godfrey on the account they have against us? I cannot expect more than five dollars in money out of all that is coming to me from the school. Did not Miss W. act meanly? Everett was here yesterday and says that he should think we had 60 or 70 bushels of wheat for our share and it is now bringing 90 cents per bushel. He asked me if I would have it sold now. I told him I thought it would be best to do so as soon as it is threshed and I hope that was the right answer to make him was it not? If I could get enough to pay Wood and Holmes, and the butcher I should feel better. They have not asked for their pay but I should like to settle with them. Camfield still wants the chick says he will give five dollars for them and will either put the money in my hands or Mr Clark's before he removes the chick. I told Everett he could have them

on these terms. I shall make an effort to dispose
of the desks, school-tables etc. What was I to do
about the stove? I wish Malcolm would study
more from his time, to prepare himself for
work. The time he has now can never be
Auna is going to write to you the next time I
write. I told her father would practice faithfully
and learn how to write a nice letter. I would
not expect any more studies from him this
summer. I do think it is very important to
learn how to write a letter well. Everett is
going to New York in about ten days, and
is coming up to spend a day or two with us
before he goes. I must not omit to tell
you that we have had two fine rain since
you left one last Sunday night and one
the Sunday night before. Our cistern seems
to have an abundance in it, and I assure
you we know how to appreciate it. The garden
look a great deal better, once seeing things seem
more cheerful. But every one almost is talking of
selling out and leaving A. A. Most and Cliff
both say they shall do their best to get their future
wray from here. Pettyman is going to Fond du Lac
and Parker is going somewhere else. Everett son
Jacob Cook in Monroe, he says he is coming up
to make us a visit soon. I shall be glad enough
to see him. I shall probably write again day af-
ter to morrow. Until then my dear husband I
must say Good-bye. Keep up your courage trust in
God, all will go well. Kiss Malcolm for me. The chil-
dren all send love. Even your own dear wife C. C. Bamble



Horatio P. Van Cleeve

German town

Montgomery Co.

Ohio.

Anne Arbor Aug 10th. [1853]

My dear Husband,

I have had no letters from you since Monday, but hope I may get one to-morrow. I want to have a little chat with you to-night about matters and things in general, and one or two things in particular. I am sitting by the parlor table, the lamp is lighted, the children are all in bed except Anna who sits reading beside me. Mary has gone to her Thursday evening church and it is very quiet and pleasant. I am very tired, and have been suffering for several days past with a severe and wearing pain in my back. As I write I sometimes raise my eyes and looking towards the lounge, think how happy it would make me to have you sitting by me, then that I might rest my weary head upon your faithful breast and tell you all which I am now obliged to put on paper. I am not hor-spirited nor discouraged. Oh no I have no reason to be, but I am tired very tired and long for my natural resting place ^{Friday morning} just now I was interrupted by company, and when they left it was too late to go on with my letter, so I crawled up stairs to bed where I lay thinking a long while of my dear absent husband, wondering whether he was thinking of me. You never say anything about when you expect to come home, I don't want you to think that I want to hurry you, but I would like to know if we may expect you again before cold weather. I am getting along well enough excepting that I am very weak and sometimes

feel almost unable to attend to my daily duties, but I think
when this is especially the weather is one that I shall feel better
don't be worried about me. Mr Howard handed me
\$40.00 the other day and said he should call this week
when he had sold the note, and pay me some more.
I called on Dr Forest yesterday and paid him \$8.00
he has us charged with \$31.00 without deducting the
school-bills. where can I find your charge against him
I should like to know how he stands in order that we
may keep every thing straight. I called to see Godfrey
about turning that acct of which I wrote to you over.
He says it cannot be turned on our debt there, because
Whelan has the accts for his share, and Mr Godfrey is to
pay them to him as fast as he collects them, so that nothing
but money will answer his purpose. He said that I could
have goods on Mr Cook's order, and I shall probably
make the bill out in Groceries or something which we need.
I have settled with that boy, paid Fritz something, settled
with Wood the book-seller and paid Mary something.
I shall pay the printer, and then shall keep the balance
to get flour, and shorts, and wood, and coal, &c &c
with, unless there is something you are anxious to have
me pay. Jim Cook is very kind and obliging, he is running
around this morning to get some things which I need
and says I must call upon him when I want anything.
Now told me the other day that Wallace had sent up a
claim for the stall in Saline, but he seemed to think it was
not right altogether that you should pay it, it amounts to

\$18.00 principal & interest. Mr Ford and his wife were
visiting here that day and I sent word by him to Thomas
Wood to have him see about it, and let me know what
was to be done. Mr Ford thought that some one would take
the stall, and I should suppose such an arrangement
might be made. Mr Wood will attend to it without
doubt, but you may know something about it which
we do not, and therefore I thought best to mention it
to you. I forgot to tell you that I shall call and pay
Mr Voorhus for those L.S. books. Jim has just come
in to tell me there will be a load of wood and a
barrel of flour here in a short time for me. Flour was
\$5.00 per barrel. There is no wood brought into town
now, but by dint of much exertion I have succeeded
in getting a load of "cuttings" from the steam-traction
when I shall probably continue to get my wood until
the farmers have time to bring in some. I get these so-
called "cuttings" which make very nice stove wood be-
ing all saved and split ready for burning, at the rate
of .62 1/2 a load that is a wagon box full. You will
think we have been economical when I tell you that
we have still some wood left in the wood shed, but it
is in large chunks which we cannot well burn, it will
be good however for the dining room stove, when we
make a fire there. So much for the minutiae of house-
keeping. Mary Van Cleave and some of the Episcopalian
children have been up on a visit for a few days. They stop

at Houston's of course, there was a party given to them
by them on Wednesday, and Anna went, she enjoyed
herself very well I think. The children have been inside
of this house just three rather times long enough to take
off their bonnets. Mrs. Johnson gave them a party last
night and Mr. Judge Lawrence gives them one to-night.
Anna was not invited last night, but Mrs. Lawrence
brought her in the street yesterday, and asked her to
come this evening. I think however she will not go, as
it is so exceedingly hot and she seems very weak in
consequence of the heat. She would have answered your
letter before this time if she had not felt so miserably.
She commenced an answer but did not finish it on
that account. She complains much of a bad feeling
in her head at times and when suffering in this
way she is fit for nothing. I hope however she will
be better soon, and that then she will be able
to send you a good letter as often as once in two
weeks. Lizzy had just come in and handed me a
letter from you and Malinda, also one from her.
I see by yours that you are worried about how I am to
get along, this letter will set your mind at rest
about that, you will see that the Lord has provided
for me amply, and I don't want you to feel the least
disturbed about me, just take care of yourself, and let
me take care of myself, or rather I should say let
us commit ourselves to the care of Him who can do
for us more and better than we can ask or think

[Aug. 10, 1853]

We have ~~not~~ considered ~~the weather~~ and the gardens look finely, but Oh! how hot it is now. I never knew it so hot in Michigan, we cannot make the least exertion with comfort, as I sit and write the perspiration flows from me in great drops. I never saw any one so well up with the weather as ~~Sam~~ is, she makes me think of a salted plumb. She feels very sorry she has not been able to write to you yet, but she will do so very soon if she does not get down sick. Sam keeps reminding me to name the child and most adds a line to Sam's letter saying that Sam would prefer to have it called "Sam Agnes" to any of the other names mentioned but that he is too modest to say so. Now knowing that you would like that name, and liking it myself very much, I see no just cause or impediment in the way of naming him that, so I shall in my answer to his letter give him full authority to name him that. He will want him to be called Sam not Samuel, and of course he will be called Sam by every one, now are you satisfied, I hope so. I suppose by the time you receive this, his name will be engraved on the only silver cup ever presented to one of our children. I know that Sam really feels the compliment as such, and that he has from the first been very much pleased with the idea. I trust his namesake will never disgrace him, at present at least he may be proud of him, for a sweeter, better baby never lived. Ed has been to see me two or three times

lately since his return from New York, and makes
himself very agreeable. Sam writes that Most is
still better pleased with his place than he was at first
and that his employer is still better pleased with him.
He is going to travel through New England in a week
or two, and is to go to New Orleans as soon as the fear
from the Yellow fever is over. Ed says Most is in the
habit of attending Henry Ward Beecher's church and
that he is very much pleased with him; his eloquence
is of the same startling peculiar kind as his father's
I imagine but much more polished. He preaches you
know in Brooklyn. Did you know they were to have
an aerial passage up and down Broadway, to be in
a level with the second story windows of the buildings,
in which story the goods of the different establishments
are to be displayed? This promenade is of course design-
ed for the ladies, and for such of the Lords of Creation
as have leisure to lounge and a promenade. It will be
very nice will it not? When we have made a fortune
we may be able to enjoy a walk in the second story of
Broadway. I enclosed three dollars and a half to Mrs
Sullivan this morning, and feel much relieved about
that affair. The children all send love to some of you.
Lizzie told me to tell you that she sits in your place
at the table. I should have called on Mrs Curtis and on
Mr Curtis' sister who is spending the summer with them but
have felt so weak that I could not make the effort. Good bye
my dear husband, keep up your spirits, all is going on well, and
something tells me we shall be happy yet. May God bless us
all and soon reunite us, for his dear son's sake, ^{your affectionate wife} C. C.

Amherst Aug 11th 1853

My dear boy,

I was highly gratified with your letter, it was written with so much more care than usual and the composition was so much better, that I could hardly believe when I first looked at it, that it came from you. I know you must be trying to do well, and hope you will continue to improve as much as you have done in the last few weeks. If I am not mistaken you are studying harder, and trying to improve your talent. May God bless you my boy, and may he keep you from sin, and make you pure and holy. I am glad you are likely to have steady work. Idleness is a madful thing and always leads to actual ~~guard~~ guard against it then, and do not forget the old saying, which has truth as well as poetry in it, "Satan finds some mischief still, for idle hands to do." Your letter has encouraged me more than any thing that I have seen for a long while and I hope it is not the last nicely written letter I shall have from my dear boy. Do you remember my care-worn face do you my child? It is care-worn indeed, and wrinkled, more with trouble than with years. But I hope that my many thorough life will hereafter be smoother and perhaps some of the furrows may be filled up, and my heart may feel lighter than it has done for years. Nothing will

have so good an effect upon me as to see my children doing all in their power to become wise and good. The little folks are all well; Sam grows like a Rose-bud Little Ed. is just as full of mischief as he can hold. Seymour and Elsie will run away at the risk of a punishment, but is a general thing they are very good. Ellen and Lizzie are great comforts to me. They are getting to be really smart workers and save me a great many steps. Anna is just the same mother child as ever. She talks of you a great deal and would almost jump out of her senses with joy to see you. And I need not tell you how glad I should be to see my boy, but we must be patient and wait until it is God's will that we should meet in ~~his arms~~ ~~his arms~~ we must ask his blessing for us, and I know he will take care of us.

All send love, Anna will write very soon. Good bye my dear child.

Ever your affectionate mother

C. C. Van Cleve

Mary laughed heartily at your Dutch message



Rev. Dr. L. Van Buren
New York
Montgomery
Ohio

Ann Arbor Aug 29th 1853

My dear Husband,

I rec'd your letter this morning of the 25th inst. and was glad, and I trust thankful to hear that both you and our dear boy were well and in good spirits. I felt like sitting down immediately to answer it, but today has been a busy day with me and I have been obliged to put it off until to night. I hope you are not idle this hot weather, and for this we ought to be thankful. Be careful not to get sick down there away from us all. With a long paper but some one asks after you. Well Mr. Briggs & Co. are ready to go Engineering from Kingley and John Linn & another part of the company are going to night, and asked all manner of questions. I was down and inquired the names of your P. office. It is not likely you could find employment for all if for any but you might be able to say whether there was any probability of their getting work at all. Mr. Curtis met me the other day, and asked me when I expected to be home. I think he will be satisfied you. I called there the other day and he was very pleasant and I must let the children - just think of it my poor dirty, meanly dressed ragged children come home and see Mary saying that Mary did not love any of the folks as well as she did Peggy and Ellen. I shall try and get on

my feelings towards her, but I don't let the children go there, and I mean to remark because they are not perhaps disposed to make as many of them as I think. I went to church for the first time since last winter yesterday and heard an excellent practical sermon from Mr Curtis. From the text "I say therefore do not of the word and work hisers only." It was a very pointed discourse, and I trust I took my share of it to my self, and that it may do me good. Next Sabbath will be our Anniversary service, and I shall make an effort to attend. I am afraid it will be hard to keep Mr Curtis' remarks about me out of my head, but trust that I may dwell so much on the theme of my precious Saviour that I shall not have time or wish to think of unkind ones. Pray for me dear that I may be benefitted and that my faith may be strengthened. I wish if any have been added to the church, I do not know. The little ones do not forget you, but I do feel bad sometimes to think that little Sam is missing all the parties he would have if father was at home. I don't know what a little romp he is. Anna thinks of you more at home you would never get up in the morning for the little & wait to wait till 6 o'clock and is so full of fun that it is hard to get up and leave him. He is so fair and so fresh looking the

eyes are so often so bright and he is so good - a true always. What I should do you heart good to see him. Besides all this he is so fond to look on one like you than any of the others and you could with help bring him with all these things to make him happy and lovable. Now for a little business. I have sold five of the desks to Mary Clark for four dollars which she has turned with Mr Sayer so that no more are here nothing. It is just right I think quite likely the many more will be sold. (And right here for fear I may forget it I am going to tell you that Mrs Sumner has entirely well and that H. Dr. thinks he being her husband only next week. He has been a doctor in the past and she will go right to house-keeping. Now for some more business. Mr. Howard has sold his farm to a cousin of Mr. Sayer for \$25,000 per acre, and I feel pretty sure that this contemplated sale has hindered the sale of ours. Mr. Howard is a good man and honest, but of course he must take care of himself first. Every body says that but just you my own dear self sacrificing husband and we must expect nothing else from any one. Now I think the farm may be sold. I have had an idea so he tells me that perhaps for motions of his own Howard has "deserved it with faint praise" but for all that Howard is

house and has done better for himself and your
old would have done. Now when my own
place for the farm. He is now in the city and do
the morning, himself. I only heard of him from Oscar
yesterday, and I do not suppose he will leave
there this winter. Of course I shall see to the saw-
ing of the hay and the fruit. I don't like the
least worried upon duty. I know what a man-
ger I am. I don't like to have seen in my man-
age in Paderf. Mrs. Manning who is a sister of
for serving his work and I would not give him
but I. J. I carried it. Jim is him every day or two. I
see how I get along and Mr. Madison called in
quite often. They still break up this fall. Mr. T.
is going up to the fishing on Thunder Bay island
and Mr. Adams will spend part of the
winter in Rochester. Relief writes to her that he
is going to take the entire care of her this winter.
I shall miss them much for they have been so vary-
ably kind to me. They always must be remembered
to you. Mr. Schöff told me this other day to remem-
ber him to you. You don't know how much peo-
ple think of you. I shall be glad to have you go to day.
Now it seems as if you would be most pleasantly
situated there. I long to know when mother intends
coming. She has got her pension of \$250 I think for 5
years. I shall see how to morrow about the furor
and I think to do so to-day but he was not in his
office. Mr. Abel asked with much interest about you
and Malcolm. I will tell all about it. I shall write
again to-morrow or next day. Love from all of us to
the kindest. God bless you both. I will not send send
love. I wish I knew where to expect mother.

Your own true loving wife C. A. Van

[Co. Feb. 1854?]]

Cincinnati, Monday Feb. 13th

My own dear

I left Peach Orchard on Friday morn-
ing. Belle & the children were well. I left in a
freight boat and the last I saw of dear Sissy
she was standing on the bank watching me
as our boat was floating down the stream.
She had bid me good bye in good spi-
rits and without shedding any tears. May
God bless and protect our precious little one.
She appears to be very happy with Aunt
Belle & the children, and all very kind
to her. When we arrived at the mouth of the
Sandy, we found Col. Greg still confined to
his bed, but improving. He wished to be re-
membered very affectionately to you all.
I reached here yesterday morning about
daylight found all well, and two very in-
teresting letters from my darling wife, one
from Willie Daniels, and one from Willie
Houston. I hardly know where to com-
mence answering your letters, there is in
them so much of interest.

Firstly, Wood. Let Mr Hicks furnish a
summers supply. I do not know how much
will be necessary. — I will send you, in
the course of two or three weeks, about \$150.00 to

enable you to pay for the food and to ~~be~~
~~able~~ to prepare for your journey, and pay
your traveling expenses to this place. I will
then leave money with Mr. Simola or Mellen
to defray your expenses while here and to
furnish you with funds to return to Michigan.
I am very glad Mrs. Thurston is with you
and will be able to take care of the children
during your absence. Dear good women
you must kiss her for me. I am sorry
to learn that Mr. L. Health is not good, you
must remember her to him. I tell Cliff
to study and keep up good courage.
I am about to borrow \$500 from William
Houston as you see from the enclosed letter
to Mrs. H. which I wish you to deliver to him
with your own hands and be careful
about the note it contains.

Willie Owens wrote to me a very inter-
esting letter and wished me to make
a visit to Danville, as you will see by
his letter which I will send in a day or
two. You will see his handwriting is pre-
sently like his dear mother's. I will answer
his letter in a day or two and will try
to make arrangements to visit him
before next fall. There is a possibility
that in the course of the summer I may be
on a Rail Road in that region, but there is

no certainty about it. Mr. Sigman has
contracted for a Road there and if possible
Mr. Mellen or Mr. Simola will get me a situa-
tion there. Before you leave here
pay up the servant girls and lay in a
good supply of groceries and all that
will be necessary for the family during
your absence; Flour, potatoes &c. &c. Make
arrangements about pasturing the cow.
By the bye does she expect to become a
mother this Spring. If she does they better
give away the calf immediately. Have you
plenty of hay for her? Ask Malcolm if it is
put carefully in the loft where the rain will
not ruin it. If there is more hay than
you need, it had better be sold. Don't sell
to a certain man, who will bring you in
debt if you do. Malcolm must improve the
time now and saw all the wood he can
so that he may leave a good supply for
summer.

And now for another matter. I sent
to Mr. and Mrs. Ellen to Mr. Mellen, brought
very agreeable news, for all. Mary was
very much pleased, and asked whether
any thing had been said about a change
of religion. I could not say no. I tried to
evade the question; hesitated and told her
my letter was confidential. She had before

Dear Mr. W. who by his questions has
blended in the same predicament. What I
say is for yourself. Not a stone will be
left unturned, all the powers of the Priesthood
will be brought in, to prevent the change.
Persuasion and Threats will be used, and
you my dear wife, will need all your
well known prudence, wit, ingenuity, and
judgement to assist E in this fiery trial.
Stand by her as long as she needs your
help, and may God bless you all my
darling. There is a great deal that I
might say in your private ear that I
hardly dare commit to paper. I can
say no more to day but will write in
a day or two.

I was very much
pleased with my visit to P. Orchard. Had
a pleasant time. Belle is a sweet girl and
has two lovely children. Mary has two
sweet children and I think little Ellen
is one of the loveliest I ever saw.

Kiss my dear children for me and
give much love to all.

Your own devoted husband

P.S. I send Willie Davies, letter which I should
like you to show to Stuart